

31 October 1962

(drafted: M. A. Marin)

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S VISIT TO HAVANA

Press

The press as a whole gives a factual account of the arrival of the Secretary-General and his advisers. The same applies to yesterday afternoon's meeting with the Cuban Government.

Radio

Last night and this morning the radio gave the same factual account. A commentator, however, made reference to the importance of the visit of the Secretary-General and of his earnest effort in the crisis.

Government officials

Last night, the points of view of some officials of the Government were given in the sense of welcoming the presence of the Secretary-General. This morning, after last night's meeting, it was said that the Secretary-General had made an excellent impression to the leaders of the Cuban Government by the way he had handled the conversations. And it was added that the general feeling was, "It is good to have U Thant in the United Nations at this moment."

Public

The few comments which were heard last night from militiamen (men and women) ^{some} and civilians were of hope that the presence of the Secretary-General would ease the crisis. In general, the public is not as excited as it ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~probably~~ under ^{bright from regular} the circumstances.